



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **NISHIUCHI, et al.**

Group Art Unit: **1763**

Serial No.: **10/615,381**

Examiner: **Richard BUEKER**

Filed: **July 9, 2003**

**P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 1378**

**FOR: SURFACE TREATING PROCESS, SURFACE TREATING APPARATUS,  
VAPOR-DEPOSITING MATERIAL, AND RARE EARTH METAL-BASED  
PERMANENT MAGNET WITH SURFACE TREATED**

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.116**  
**- EXPEDITED RESPONSE -**  
**GROUP ART UNIT 1763**

**MAILSTOP AF**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

October 11, 2006

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated **June 15, 2006**, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.